

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 06008 100631 Z

12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

DPW-01 AID-20 IO-12 EUR-25 RSR-01 /140 W

----- 024177

R 100401 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9901

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 6008

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT VS VN

SUBJECT: MAJOR GENERAL NGHI' S VIEW ON NVA/ VC POST- CEASEFIRE
ACTIVITIES

FOL TEL SENT SAIGON FROM CAN THO APRIL 9, 1972 RPTD FOR YOUR INFO:

QUOTE CAN THO 153

1. MG NGHI TREATED ME TO A SHORT PERSONAL TACTICAL BRIEFING BEFORE THE WEEKLY ARVN REVIEW APRIL 9. THE ESSENCE WAS THAT THE LEVEL OF ENEMY CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS WAS HIGHER IN MARCH THAN IN FEBRUARY, AND IS REPEATING THIS PATTERN FOR THE FIRST WEEK IN APRIL BY BEING HIGHER THAN MARCH. THE NATURE OF THE APPROACH HAS CHANGED, HOWEVER.

2. IN NGHI' S VIEW, THE VC/ NVA EARLY IN THE CEASEFIRE PERIOD CONCENTRATED ON ATTACKING OUTPOSTS AND SEIZING TERRITORY. WHEN THAT POLICY FAILED, THEY SWITCHED TO ATTACKS BY FIRE. THUS WHILE OVERALL INCIDENTS HAVE INCREASED, THE PERCENTAGE OF ATTACKS BY FIRE IS NOW MUCH HIGHER THAN THAT OF GROUND ATTACKS.

3. NGHI SURMISED THAT VC/ NVA RELIANCE ON ATTACKS BY FIRE STEMMED FROM A DESIRE TO IMPRESS THE ICCS AND WORLD OPINION WITH THE UBIQUITY OF VC/ NVA PRESENCE AND HENCE THE PERVASIVE-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 06008 100631 Z

NESS OF THEIR INFLUENCE. I INTERPRET THEM MORE AS A SIGN OF
VC/ NVA WEAKNESS, SINCE THEY ARE LESS HUMANLY EXPENSIVE THAN
GROUND ATTACKS, WHICH IN MY VIEW HAVE DECLINED IN POPULARITY
LARGELY BECAUSE THE ARVN HAS SHOWN AN UNCHARACTERISTIC STATE
OF READINESS SINCE THE " CEASEFIRE". BARNES
UNQUOTE WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON06008
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730438/aaaahzfd.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <28-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971215
Subject: MAJOR GENERAL NGHI' S VIEW ON NVA/ VC POST- CEASEFIRE ACTIVITIES FOL TEL SENT SAIGON FROM CAN THO APRIL 9, 1972 RPTD FOR YOUR INFO: QUOTE CAN THO 153
TAGS: PINT, VN, VS, PINT
To: EA
JEC PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005